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Response

Remarks

Reconsideration of pending Claims 1-79 and 139-148 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 18, 28, 31, 42, 50, 51, 52, 54, 55, 60, 62, 63, 65, 139 and 140 have been amended. New Claims 141-148 have been added, as supported in the original and currently examined claims.

The amendments are intended to merely clarify language used in the claims and the subject matter claimed, and the scope of the claims is intended to be the same after the amendment as it was before the amendment. No new matter has been added with the amendments or the addition of the new claims.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) (Dhillon)

The Examiner responded to Applicant's responsive arguments by maintaining the rejection of Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 15, 18-20, 22-24, 26-28, 30-37, 42-46, 49-66, 70-73, 76, and 77 under Section 102(b) as anticipated by USP 4,912,021 (Dhillon). Again, insofar as this rejection is maintained with respect to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner maintains the rejection of the claims on the basis that Dhillon discloses a composition that contains all the identical ingredients of Applicant's composition.

Dhillon does not teach or suggest Applicant's compositions as claimed, which is formulated with a cleaning agent, an antimicrobial agent(s), and a solvent — or with a cleaning agent, an antimicrobial agent, at least one of a surfactant, corrosion inhibitor, chelating agent, oxidizing agent, and antioxidant, and a solvent —but *not* a resin as in Dhillon's composition, i.e., component (c) — one or more resins selected from polyvinyl pyrrolidone, dextrin, poly (methyl vinyl ether/maleic acid), and gum Arabic.

Dhillon does not teach or suggest Applicant's composition as claimed. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) (Pregozen)

The Examiner further maintains the rejection of Claims 1-7, 9, 15, 18-20, 22-24, 26-35, 37, 42-47, 49-51, 55-66, 70-72, 76, and 77 under Section 102(b) as anticipated by

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USP 5,141,803 (Pegozen). Insofar as this rejection is maintained with respect to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner again cites Pegozen as teaching a composition that contains all ingredients identical to those recited in the claims.

Unlike Applicant's composition as claimed, Pegozen's composition is formulated with a *two specific cationic biocides* — polyhexamethylene biguanide hydrochloride and poly(oxyethylene(dimethyliminio) ethylene(dimethyliminio)ethylene dichloride). See at col. 3, lines 23-31. Pegozen teaches that the two particular cationic biocides are essential to the composition. See, for example, col. 2, lines 51-64 ("...However, it was surprisingly found that incorporation of either of two specific cationic biocides greatly minimized the slippery feel of the wet wipe.")

Pegozen does not teach or suggest Applicant's compositions as claimed, which is formulated with a cleaning agent, an antimicrobial agent(s), and a solvent, — or with a cleaning agent, an antimicrobial agent, at least one of a surfactant, corrosion inhibitor, chelating agent, oxidizing agent, and antioxidant, and a solvent —but *not* a cationic biocide as in Pegozen's composition.

Pegozen does not teach or suggest Applicant's composition as claimed. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner also maintains the rejection of Claims 16 and 17 under Section 103(a) as obvious over Dhillon in view of USP 6,156,661 (Small). Insofar as this rejection is maintained with respect to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner maintains that it would be obvious to utilize the buffering agent (TMAH, ammonium hydroxide, NH₄OH) disclosed by Small in the composition of Dhillon in order to buffer the solution.

Applicant maintains the previously stated arguments regarding the combination of Small with Dhillon, and the lack of motivation to modify Dhillon's composition as proposed. However, even if, *arguendo*, one would make the proposed modification of Dhillon, it would not provide Applicant's composition as claimed, which is formulated with a cleaning agent, antimicrobial

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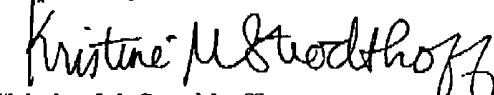
agent(s), and solvent, — or with a cleaning agent, antimicrobial agent(s), buffering agent, and a solvent, — or with a cleaning agent, antimicrobial agent, at least one of a buffering agent, surfactant, corrosion inhibitor, chelating agent, oxidizing agent, and antioxidant, and a solvent — but not a resin as in Dhillon's composition, i.e., component (c).

Dhillon, either alone or in combination with Small, does not teach or suggest Applicant's composition as claimed. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Extension of Term. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that a one (1) month extension of term is required, and is hereby requested. If any additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor. Please charge the required fee to Account No. 23-2053.

Applicant believes that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned Attorney if any questions should arise or further discussion would expedite the examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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